THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) Representations have been received from Delhi Professional Photographers' Association concerning. amongst others, the quality of HPF's products, its monopoly in photo sensitised goods, high cost of foreign technology, price increase etc. and asking for the removal of the CMD. The allegations have been gone into and have not been found to be based on facts. M's. HPF have been progressively meeting the demand of black and white range of photographic products through its integrated production programme. Apart from HPF. there is another unit undertaking integrated manufacture of photo sensitised goods. Letters of intent have also been issued to two other units. For meeting demand of X-ray films, graphic art films and cine colour positive films etc., HPF undertakes conversion from imported jumbo rolls. COB licences have also been issued to a number of undertakings for conversion from imported jumbo rolls.

The quality of products from HPF is by and large satisfactory and it has a quality assurance programme. Specific complaints. when received, are looked into.

As regards price revision, this is largely guided by a formula laid down by the Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices.

Need to review the present durg policy

*256. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the views of his Ministry on the drug industry clamouring for higher mark ups and more profits and the consumer groups pleading that prices and profits of the industry are very high;

(b) whether his Ministry has conducted any study into the profits and mark ups;

(c) if so. what are the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that a review of the present policy and DPCO, 1987 is in progress;

(e) if so. whether it is not necessary to conduct study on profitability and mark ups before reviewing the policy; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (f) It is the endeavour of the Government to ensure easy availability of medicines in abundant quantity at fair and reasonable prices to the consumers. In order to achieve this objective, the Government is reviewing the entire Drug Policy. While doing so, all the representations, suggestions etc. received from various forums including Drug Industry and Consumer Groups will be taken into account. The profitability of the Drug Industry and present allowable MAPE under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 will also form a part of the aforesaid review

Clearance of overdues by State Electricity Boards

*257. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has directed the State Electricity Boards to clear their overdues of Rs. 2300 crores within some stipulated period of time:

(b) if so, by when and whether the balance of uppaid amounts would be adjusted against the annual plan allocations of the States concerned; and

(c) what other steps are being taken by Government to see that the overdues of Rs. 2300 crores are recovered from the SEBs eary?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Central Government has been advising the State Governments|State Electricity Boards to clear the overdues of the Central Undertakings. Since the arrears kept on accumulating, the Central Government have decided that 25 per cent of the overdues as on a pre-determined date may be adjusted against the Central assistance payable to the State Governments for their plan schemes. The balance will similarly be adjusted in three consecutive years in equal instalments. The undisputed dues as on 31st May, 1990 (more than two months old) to Central Undertakings, *viz*, NTPC, NHPC, BHEL, CIL and NEEPCO from the SEBs have been estimated at Rs. 2762.82 crores. 25 per cent of the undisputed overdues i.e. Rs. 690.74 crores is being recovered in the current financial year 1990-91 in three instalments with effect from August, 1990 by adjustment against Central assistance payable to the State Governments during the year and the balance will similarly be adjusted in three consecutive years in equal instalments. The concerned State Governments have been further requested that the balance of the overdues from their SEBs to Central Undertakings may be cleared early. This position is being monitored closely.

Ayurvedic treatment in foreign countries

*258. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that facilities for Ayurvedic treatment exist in hospitals in some of the foreign countries; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps for contributing to the expertise and knowledge of Ayurvedic System of Medicine in those and other willing foreign countries; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Requests received from foreign countries in this regard are responded positively. Scholars from abroad also avail of the educational facilities in our Ayurvedic institutions. On the request of Government of Mauritius, an Ayurvedic expert was deputed for two months during 1988. Further experts in the field of Ayurveda have been exchanged with the Peoples Republic of Mongolia.

Indian Airlines Engine Overhaulling Workshop at Palam

*259. CHOWDHURY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is setting up an aircraft engine overhauling workshop at Palam, New Delhi;

(b) if so, what kind of aircraft engines would be overhauled in that workshop; and

(c) by when the said workshop will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The workshop will take up work of overhauling turbo fan type engines of moder JT8D installed on B-737 aircraft.

(c) The final testing of machinery and equipment is in progress, after completion of which the work will start in a phased manner.

AIDS ward in AIIMS

*260. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AIIMS was sanctioned a grant of three million rupees to open an AIDS Ward;